DECEMBER, 1936 VOL. 4, NO. 4

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

National Congress of Parents and Teachers 1201 16th St N W Washington D C

A Merry CHRISTMAS

Entrance to the National Office of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, which occupies the sixth floor of the National Education Association Building in the nation's capital.

Executive Committee Meeting Begins New Year

January 13-15, 1937

The Executive Committee of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers will meet in Washington, D. C., January 13, 14, and 15; and on the 16th, the annual meeting of the stockholders and Board of Directors of the Child Welfare Company (*National Parent-Teacher Magazine*) will be held. Among the items on the agenda for the Executive Committee are the following:

1. Celebration in 1937 of the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the National Congress honoring the Founders, Mrs. Alice McLellan Birney and Mrs. Phoebe Apperson Hearst.

2. Program for the 1937 National Convention to be held in Richmond, Virginia, May 3-7. (Board meeting, April 30 and May 1.)

3. Parent-Teacher Section meeting of the Department of Superintendence convention in New Orleans, February 22.

4. Field Work — College conferences and courses, credit and noncredit.

5. Editorial policies of the Congress.

6. Report of committee on Convention Allocation and Machinery.

7. Preliminary report of committee on Study of Publications and Magazine.

8. Preliminary report of committee on Study of Endowment Fund Management.

9. Traffic Safety Education Project.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES AT WORK

Founders Day

Mrs. Fred Raymond, National Chairman, is eager to know about plans being made for the observation of Founders Day, especially of unique features for the Fortieth Anniversary. The Kansas City Council (Kansas) will produce a pageant of states and nations, showing the most important P.T.A. projects interpreted by women in characteristic costume of the state or nation. What are councils and districts in your state planning?

Motion Pictures

Dr. Edgar Dale, National Chairman, calls attention to the fact that erroneous information about the motion picture program of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers was published in the November 21 issue of *Scholastic*, as follows: "The committee on motion pictures of this body temporarily abandoned its fight against block-booking and blind-buying of films, trade practices fostered by the producers and distributors, in favor of a campaign to help the public 'recognize a good film when it sees one!'"

Continuation of the fight against block-booking and blind-selling of motion pictures was voted unanimouly by our Board of Managers at the September meeting in Chicago. The campaign for the enactment of the Neely-Pettengill Bill is actively under way.

Vol. 4 NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN No. 4

Published monthly except July and August by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers,
1201 Sixteenth Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Subscription price: 20 cents a year; club rates for 5 or more subscriptions, 10 cents each.

Entered as second class matter July 26, 1936, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under act of March 3, 1879.

National President: Mrs. B. F. Langworthy
General Secretary: William H. Bristow
Editor: Clarice Wade

Safety Begins at Home

A plea for parent-teacher associations to emphasize safety at home, as well as on the highway, has been issued by Miss Marian Telford, National Chairman of Safety. She points out that almost as many people are killed in home accidents as are victims of highway accidents. She calls attention to two very important publications providing valuable material for units promoting home safety programs. The first is a publication of the American Red Cross entitled "Injuries in the Home: how they are caused and how they can be prevented," issued as a part of the Red Cross Home Safety program. The second is the pamphlet, "Safe at Home," written by Curtis Billings, associate editor of the *National Safety News*, prepared under the direction of the Home Safety Committee of the National Safety Council, Miss Rosamond Losh, Director of the Kansas City Children's Bureau, chairman.

Library Service for All the People

Plans and projects for complete state-wide library development are under way in a number of states, Miss Julia Wright Merrill, National Chairman, reports. The Colorado Congress President, for example, is an active member of a state library planning committee, which has set up a program and will present the most urgent needs to the Legislature this coming winter. The Tennessee state Congress and the State Education Association are backing the library program in the recent educational survey of the state which calls for an annual state grant of $650,000, or 25 cents percapita, to set up approximately ten regional libraries to serve all the people of the state.

Dramatic methods are being used to arouse popular interest, as in Nebraska, where a demonstration book automobile has been made available from private funds through the interest of the state Congress Chairman of Library Service. The Idaho Congress is sponsoring a statewide school essay contest on "Why we need better library service in Idaho."

Mental Hygiene

Dr. Frances Gaw, National Chairman, suggests the following references having to do with the mental health of children through high-school: (*The National Parent-Teacher Magazine* carries stimulating material regarding the child's mind and how it develops.)

Your Child Is Normal. Grace Adams.
Child From One to Twelve. Ada Hart Arlitt.
Management of Young Children. W. E. Blatz and Mrs. H. (M.) Bott.
Understanding the Adolescent Girl. Grace Loucks Elliott.
Children of the New Day. Katherine Glover and Evelyn Dewey.
Personality and Social Adjustment. Ernest R. Groves.
Behavior Aspects of Child Conduct. Esther Loring Richards.
Case Studies of Normal Adolescent Girls. Elsie May Smithies.
Introduction to Child Study. Ruth Strang.
Mental Hygiene of the School Child. Percival M. Symonds.
Normal Youth and Its Every Day Problems. Douglas A. Thom.

Rural Service

Dr. William McKinley Robinson, National Chairman, sends us the October issue of the *Educational News Bulletin* of Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, Michigan, which contains an account of the Annual Conference of the American Country Life Association on "Education for Democracy." The section on Parent-Teacher Associations, giving excerpts from the addresses by Kenneth L. Heaton, of the Michigan State Department of Education, and Alice Sowers, Parent Education Specialist, National Congress, is especially interesting to Congress members. There are sections on Issues in Rural Life, Population Trends, Rural Youth, Old Age Security, Conservation, Cooperatives, and other timely matters.

Music

Miss Mayme Irons, National Chairman, has announced the selections to be sung by the National Mothersingers Chorus at the Richmond Convention. A copy of the list may be obtained by sending a stamped self-addressed envelop to the National Office.

ON TO RICHMOND AND THE 1937 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Give yourself a Christmas present: Start planning to attend the National Convention in Richmond, May 3-7. (Pre-Convention events begin on April 30, but the opening session is scheduled for May 3.) Why not start your Convention fund by using that Christmas check as a nest-egg? Add a few dollars every month and by the end of April, you probably will have accumulated an adequate fund for the trip. To aid you in estimating the cost of attending the Convention, the following rates for housing and transportation are given (we suggest that you also investigate the cost of travel by automobile and motor bus):

Railroad Fare

Standard railroad fare is 2 cents a mile in day coaches; 3 cents in sleeping cars (plus Pullman charges); or where parties of 25 or more people travel together, a rate of 1½ cents may be obtained. Under the new low fares, the old-time system of Convention rates on the Identification Certificate plan has been discontinued—no longer will delegates have to wait in line for ticket validations on the last precious day of the Convention! The special rate for parties of delegates is worth investigating, if your group is interested in the trip. Consult your local ticket agent several weeks in advance, if you are interested in this special rate; he may be able to arrange a private car or other specific facilities for your party.

In the southern and southeastern sections of the country, 10-day roundtrip rates may be available; west of the Mississippi, delegates may obtain special rates into Chicago or 30-day roundtrip rates. Consult your ticket agent well in advance and plan your budget.

The following one-way day coach fares from various points to Richmond will indicate the low railroad rates available:

To Richmond from—	*One-way fare*
St. Louis	$18.35
Chicago	16.95
Boston	12.40
New York City	7.90
San Francisco	51.45
Seattle	57.38
Birmingham	10.65
Memphis	15.29
New Orleans	15.41
Dallas	22.58

Hotel Rates

The following special Convention rates have been obtained from hotels in Richmond for Convention delegates: (Make your reservation early, direct with the hotel.)

Hotel	*Single*	*Double*
Jefferson	$2.00-4.00	$5.00-8.00
John Marshall	3.00-5.00	5.00-8.00
Murphy's	2.00-3.00	3.00-6.00
Richmond	1.50-3.50	3.50-6.00
Rueger's	1.75 up	3.00-7.00
William Byrd	2.00-4.50	3.00-7.00
Travelers	1.50-2.00	2.50-3.00
Sharlee	1.00-1.25	1.50 up
Gilbert's	1.00 up	1.00 up
Connell and Miller	1.25 up	2.00 up
Walford	1.00-3.50	2.00-2.50

Know Your Congressmen

If you don't know the men and women who are representing you in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, get acquainted with them, is the advice of Mrs. Mary T. Bannerman, National Chairman of Legislation, who points out that "Whether or not the persons for whom you voted were elected to your state Legislature or to the Congress of the United States, whoever was elected represents you." She suggests: "If you cannot see your Congressman or Senator personally, you should have influential members of your committee or organization who live in his district see him and talk with him about major measures for which you wish to enlist his support. These measures are (1) the Neely-Pettengill Motion Picture Bill, and (2) the Federal Food and Drug Bill. What is accomplished depends entirely upon the active support of you and your state organization."

New State Presidents

Arkansas—Mrs. Curtis Stout, 1808 Beechwood Road, Little Rock

Missouri—Mrs. Frank E. Dorsey, 293 Plaza Theater Building, 231 West 47th Street, Kansas City

South Dakota—Mrs. Gertrude Flyte, 711 S. Phillips Avenue, Sioux Falls

P.T.A. at Superintendence Convention

"Parent-Teacher Relationships" is the topic tentatively selected by Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, President, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, for the Parent-Teacher Section meeting at the convention of the Department of Superintendence in New Orleans on Monday, February 22, 1937.

Following the plan so successfully initiated last summer at the National Education Association convention in Portland, each state Congress will be invited to designate a representative to this meeting. A conference of the Joint N.E.A.-N.C.P.T. Committee will be held at 4:00 P.M., following the section meeting.

Members of the committee are: Frank Brown, G. W. Diemer, W. H. Bristow, Mrs. Daisy Howard, Margaret M. Marble, Lillian Minor, Faye Read, Agnes Samuelson, L. P. Terrebonne, Harry W. Langworthy, Mrs. George E. Calvert, Mrs. Frank Dorsey, Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, Mrs. Charles F. Pye, Mrs. I. A. Rosenbaum, Mrs. Hamilton Shaffer, Mrs. A. B. Shuttleworth, Mrs. Albert L. Smith.

New Pamphlets

Consumer-Buying in the Educational Program for Homemaking contains suggestions for teachers of homemaking in secondary school and adult classes. Vocational Education Bulletin No. 182, Home Economics Series No. 19. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price 20 cents.

A pamphlet entitled *Community Organization of Parent Education* has been published by the National Council of Parent Education, for the National Conference on Community Organization of Parent Education. Copies have been sent to each state Congress, with the suggestion that in states where there is considerable interest in the coordination process, pertinent parts of the bulletin be made available to leaders. Price 20 cents. Order from the National Council of Parent Education, 60 East 42d Street, New York City.

Goals

State Goals for local units have been published in the Louisiana and Nebraska state bulletins.

NEWS FROM STATE BRANCHES

ALABAMA A very attractive brochure captioned "Something Better for Birmingham Children," price 40c, published by the Board of Education, Birmingham, has reached the National Office. It describes the character development program followed for the past twelve years in the Birmingham Public Schools. "Character Development is a major objective in education and hence effort has been made to keep the subject definitely in the minds of patrons and teachers," says the introduction.

MAINE The Maine Congress has changed the title of its local publicity chairmen to "Public Information" chairmen, because it is believed that this term more nearly describes the true function of these workers.

VIRGINIA The Henrico County Public Schools of Virginia have published a mimeographed program for their Junior Community Leagues, sponsored by the Virginia Congress. The aims of the Junior League are Citizenship, Cooperation, Self-Improvement, Recreation, Health. The Community League is the junior organization of the parent-teacher association in the state of Virginia. Some of the suggestions for services of the League are as follows:

1. Children can make and carry home invitations to all parents and other members of the community. Children can help promote membership and interest by their own interest and information.

2. Junior Leaguers go home immediately after school to assume home responsibilities so parents may be able to attend their P.T.A.

3. Junior League members should express appreciation by proper use and care of materials, advantages and conveniences of school life made possible by parents.

4. Junior League members can assist parent-teacher communities. Example: The Junior League Health Committee should confer with the parent-teacher committee and have a common understanding of work to be done.

CALIFORNIA First District has a "Flying Squadron" which provides services to parent-teacher associations needing help with their programs. Several officers of the district have been grouped together and are available for symposiums or panels, according to their adaptability to related subjects and the accessibility of the group members. The presidents and vicepresidents of the district have prepared outlines for half-hour talks on a variety of subjects which are offered as an additional service for local program committees.—*Mrs. R. T. Goodhue, President, First District, California Congress of Parents and Teachers.*

OREGON The Oregon Congress and the Portland Council are cooperating with the Public Forums in Portland, led by Dr. Flora Thurston, writes Mrs. William Kletzer, State President. Wide publicity is given the forums through the local units. The Portland Council President and the State President served on the original planning committee.

YOUR ORDER, PLEASE

Record numbers of orders for National Congress publications are being received this year in the National Office, undoubtedly an indication of growth in membership and interest in parent-teacher work. Cooperation of Congress members in placing orders will greatly facilitate handling of the material in the office. The following points should be observed:

(1) Place orders well in advance of the date when the material will be needed. Allow three weeks, if possible, for the material to reach you.

(2) Write all orders on a separate sheet—do not include orders on the same sheet with requests for information.

(3) Discounts should be deducted from the listed price of publications before remittance is sent to the National Office.

PARENT - TEACHER RADIO FORUM ON GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD

NBC BLUE NETWORK

WEDNESDAY, 4:00-4:30 P. M., E.S.T. Sponsored by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, American Academy of Pediatrics, and National Broadcasting Company

January 6
Energy and Growth
A. A. Weech, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University

January 13
Our Glands
R. G. Hoskins, Research Associate in Physiology, Harvard Medical School; Editor, *Endocrinology*

January 20
The Action of Glands on Growth
Oscar Riddle, Investigator, Station for Experimental Evolution, Carnegie Institution of Washington

January 27
Effects of Light, Sun, and Other Rays on Growth
Otto Glasser, Director, Department of Biophysics, Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Consulting Biophysicist, University Hospitals of Cleveland

Plans are under way for publishing a book of the 31 addresses to be broadcast on the Parent-Teacher Radio Forum.

When the talks appear in book form, they will very likely be somewhat more fully developed, according to Dr. Norman C. Wetzel, of the Babies' and Children's Hospital, Cleveland, who is editor of the series.

Single mimeographed copies of talks may be obtained from the National Office, price 5 cents each.

WISCONSIN The Wisconsin Congress has published a 12-page pamphlet outlining the state parent education program to assist local units in promoting their parent education activities. The leaflet, prepared by Irma Rich Stoll, State Parent Education Chairman, includes sections on discussion groups, lay leadership and activities. Price 5 cents.

RHODE ISLAND The Rhode Island Congress has recently published a very attractive Yearbook for 1936-37. The contents include a copy of the original Charter.